

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A network terminal setting information management method for storing user information in a terminal connected to a network and setting information of said terminal matching the user information every time said terminal is used to manage the setting information of said terminal, provided with:

a step of entering user information, and

a step of collating said entered user information with already stored user information, whereby:

the setting information of said terminal stored to match said user information is set in the terminal by replacement if, as a result of said collation, the user information is found identical with already stored user information, or

if, as a result of said collation, the user information is not found identical with already stored user information, setting information matching said user information is acquired from a terminal management server via the network and stored.

2. The network terminal setting information management method according to Claim 1, whereby, when the user information in the terminal is to be stored, it is differentiated into setting information not dependent on the user information and setting information for each unit of user identifying information.

3. An information terminal device to be connected to a network, provided with:

a user information input unit for entering user information,

a user list storage unit for storing said user

information,

a user decision unit for collating user information stored in said user list storage unit and the entered user information, and

a setting information storage region for storing setting information to be referenced, matching each user, in executing functions which said terminal has, wherein:

if user information entered as a result of said collation is already present in said user list storage unit, setting information matching the user is read out of the setting information storage region and set in the terminal by replacement, and the setting information is used to connect to the network.

4. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, connectable to a terminal management server via the network, wherein

if said entered user information is not found identical with already stored user information, terminal setting information matching said entered user information is acquired from a terminal management server via the network,

the acquired setting information is set in the terminal by replacement to achieve connection to the network by use of the setting information, and

said acquired setting information is stored into the setting information storage region after completion of the network connection.

5. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, wherein:

the user information input unit is provided with an external storage medium control unit, and

user information is read out of an external storage medium by said external storage medium control unit.

6. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, wherein

the setting information storage region is provided with a function to differentiate, in storing setting information, between setting information not dependent on user information and setting information intrinsic to each user.

7. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, wherein

the user list storage unit also stores a frequency of use of the terminal by each user, and stores setting information of each user into the setting information storage region according to said frequency of use.

8. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, further provided with:

setting information replacement control unit for confirming any vacancy in a capacity of the setting information storage region, wherein

said setting information replacement control unit stores setting information of each user according to said vacancy in capacity.

9. The information terminal device according to Claim 8, wherein a priority in storing setting information ensuing from a user replacement is decided according to a number of times each user has used the information terminal device, the

number being held in the user list to be referenced by a user list storage unit, and whether or not to store setting information is determined on the basis of the decision.

10. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, wherein the setting information to be stored in the setting information storage region is managed in linkage with the user list.

11. The information terminal device according to Claim 3, wherein the user list storage unit is provided with, separately from the user list, a group list to be referenced by the user list storage unit, and users in one group are caused to share the setting information in the group by giving group attributes on the user list to a plurality of users of the terminal.

12. A program for causing a computer to function as an information terminal device by executing:

a processing step to accept entry of user information when the terminal is connected to a network,

a processing step to store, every time the terminal is connected to the network, user information of the terminal and the setting information of said terminal matching the user information,

a processing step to collate said entered user information with already stored user information, and

a processing step to set the setting information of said terminal, stored to match said user information, in the terminal by replacement if, as a result of said collation, the user information is found identical with the already stored

user information.

13. A program for causing a computer to function as an information terminal device by executing:

a processing step to accept entry of user information when the terminal is connected to a network,

a processing step to store, every time the terminal is connected to the network, user information of the terminal and the setting information of said terminal matching the user information,

a processing step to collate said entered user information with already stored user information, and

a processing step to acquire setting information matching said user information from a terminal management server via the network and to store it if the user information is not found identical with the already stored user information as a result of said collation.